

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

In this Amendment claims 36-38 are added, claims 14 and 25 are amended, and no claims are canceled. As a result, claims 1-38 are now pending in the application.

In the Office Action of December 18, 2006, claims 14-20, 23-31 and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0171747 (Niikawa). Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Niikawa and further in view of U.S. Patent 7,092,024 (Kawamura). Claims 13, 21-22 and 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Niikawa and further in view of Kawamura and yet further in view of U.S. Patent 6,734,909 (Terane). The §102 and §103 rejections of claims 14-35 are obviated in view of the present amendments.

35 U.S.C. § 102 & 103 Rejections

Claims 1-12 are rejected under §103(a) in view of the hypothetical combination of Niikawa and Kawamura. Claim 13 is rejected in view of the Niikawa / Kawamura / Terane hypothetical combination. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In accordance with various embodiments of the present invention, a novice camera user can select a shortcut that is associated with a set of parameters needed to set up the camera for taking a digital picture. When the user selects one of the shortcuts displayed on the camera user interface, the camera's processor changes its settings to the set of parameter settings associated with the shortcut. The shortcut may be named after (e.g., have an alias

for) the function or purpose intended for the photo. For example, a shortcut with an alias of “email” could be used to provide camera settings appropriate for sending the picture via email (e.g., producing a photo with a small file size—say, high compression and low resolution). On the other hand a shortcut with an alias of “8x10 Photo” would provide higher quality camera settings appropriate for a larger sized photograph. In this way, a novice user can set up the camera by selecting a single control—that is, a shortcut—rather than having to be familiar with, and make choices for, all the different parameters needed to set up the camera to take a photograph.

The claims recite features for making a one-touch selection. For example, claim 1 recites a “unique set of parameters for the capture of the digital image” and “selecting one format selection.” Claim 14 recites “means for assigning at least one shortcut to a unique set of operational parameters” and “means for permitting a user to select the at least one shortcut.” Claim 25 recites “logic configured to assign at least one shortcut to a unique set of operational parameters” and “logic configured to permit a user to select the at least one shortcut.” The patent documents cited in the pending rejection, either taken singly or in hypothetical combination, do not teach or suggest these features. These patent documents do not disclose a single control (e.g., a shortcut) associated with a complete set of parameters. In each of the digital cameras of Niikawa, Kawamura and/or Terane the user must make a selection for a number of different parameters to set the camera up for a photograph, rather than making a single selection of a shortcut.

Newly Added Claims

Dependent claims 36-38, added by this Amendment, depend from the three independent claim sets. The newly added claims recite features intended to further distinguish the claimed invention from the patent documents cited in the application. For example, a novice camera user may find it useful to have a descriptive title associated with the shortcut to the parameter settings for the camera. A shortcut with an alias of "email" could be used to provide camera settings appropriate for sending the picture via email. A shortcut with an alias of "8x10 Photo" could be associated with higher quality camera settings appropriate for a larger sized photograph. The claimed features of the newly added dependent claims encompass this concept. For example, newly added claim 37 recites "assigning a unique name to said at least one shortcut; wherein the unique name indicates an intended usage of a digital image for which said unique set of operational parameters is suitable." The other newly added claims recite similar features.

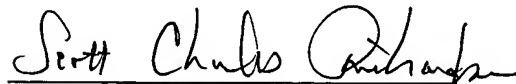
Deposit Account Authorization / Provisional Time Extension Petition

It is believed that the attached Fee Transmittal attends to the fees necessary for the three added dependent claims, and no extension of time is necessary. However, to the extent necessary, a provisional petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0439 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. However, in the event there are any unresolved issues, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact applicant's representative, Scott Richardson, by telephone at (571) 748-4765 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 12, 2007